

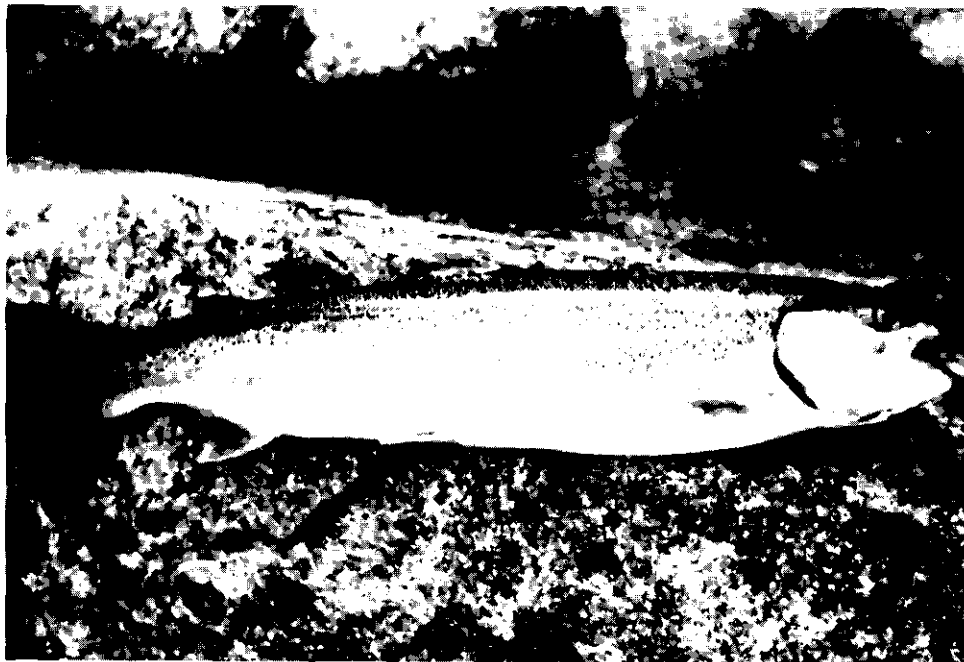
FISHERY RESEARCH



FEDERAL AID IN FISH RESTORATION

Job Performance Report, Project F-73-R-8, Job 1
Salmon and Steelhead Investigations
Estimates of the 1985 Harvest of Salmon and Steelhead (Survey)

Period Covered: March 1, 1985 — February 28, 1986



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May 1987

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JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State of: Idaho

Name: Salmon and Steelhead
Investigations

Project No.: F-73-R-8

Title: Estimates of the 1985
Harvest of Salmon and
Steelhead (Survey)

Job No. 1

Period Covered: March 1, 1985 - February 28, 1986

ABSTRACT

A harvestable surplus of hatchery spring chinook salmon returned to Idaho in 1985, allowing for a limited reopening of the sport fishing season which had been closed since 1979. Anglers fished an estimated 7,193 days and harvested 2,328 spring chinook salmon. An estimated total of 728 chinook were caught and released.

The total number of steelhead landed by anglers in 1985 reached an estimated 70,417 fish. Anglers kept 34,364 steelhead and released 36,053. The estimated number of days fished by steelhead anglers was 238,296.

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OBJECTIVE

To obtain annual estimates of salmon and steelhead harvest by major drainages.

TECHNIQUES USED

Salmon Catch Survey

Because of the low number of salmon permit holders, an attempt was made to contact all permittees by telephone to obtain salmon catch information. An example of the questions asked during the telephone interview is displayed in Figure 1.

The telephone interviewers are trained to solicit complete replies and read from a standard script so that all questions are asked of all interviewees in the same manner. Each telephone response was entered on a data sheet and processed by computer to produce estimates of total fishing effort and harvest.

Steelhead Catch Survey

In 1985, steelhead harvest and angler fishing effort were estimated from the telephone survey as reported by Pollard (1985). However, due to the large number of steelhead permit holders, a random sample of 2,000 names was selected by computer from files of steelhead permit buyers for each of the spring and fall fisheries. Each survey consisted of a preliminary letter explaining the purpose of the study and questions to be asked (Fig. 2). The letter was followed within two weeks by a phone call. The telephone interviewers are trained to solicit complete replies and read from a standard script so that all questions are asked of all interviewees in the same manner.

Each telephone response was entered on a data sheet that has blanks corresponding to those on the preliminary letter. The data was processed by computer to produce estimates of total fishing effort and harvest.

FINDINGS

Salmon

The sport fishing season on chinook salmon was from May 25 to June 30, 1985. The salmon limit (including jacks) was set at 2 fish/day, 4 in possession and 6/season (Fig. 3).

1985 Telephone Survey Spring Chinook Sport Fishery

INTRODUCTION

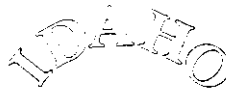
We are seeking information regarding chinook salmon fishing in Idaho during the 1985 spring chinook season (May 25 to June 30, 1985). Future management of salmon in Idaho will be aided by complete, accurate and timely information. Your assistance in answering the following questions is requested.

QUESTIONS

1. Did you fish for chinook salmon in Idaho during the 1985 spring chinook sport fishing season? Yes _____ No _____
2. How many days did you fish in the Little Salmon? _____
3. Did you catch one or more salmon (including fish released)?
Yes _____ No _____
4. If you caught and released salmon, how many jacks and adults did you release? # Jacks _____ # Adults Chinook _____
5. If you caught and kept chinook, how many did you harvest by date?

	Date	Adults	Jacks
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
6. Were you contacted at a Fish and Game check station or by a conservation officer or a creel census clerk while fishing for chinook in 1985? Which?
No _____ Yes _____ Which: _____

Figure 1. Questions asked during telephone interviews with salmon permit buyers in harvest survey sample, 1985.



600 South Walnut • Box 25
Boise, Idaho 83707



June, 1985

Dear Steelhead Angler:

We are seeking information regarding steelhead fishing in Idaho during the 1985 spring steelhead season (January through April, 1985). Future management of steelhead in Idaho will be aided by complete, accurate and timely information. Your assistance in answering the following questions is requested.

Please take a few minutes to fill in the answers to the questions below and place this letter near your telephone. **PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS LETTER BY MAIL** (unless **you have no telephone.**) Within ten days you will receive a telephone call asking the following questions:

1. Did you fish for steelhead in Idaho during the 1985 Spring Season?

Yes _____ No _____

2. How many days did you fish in each river section? (See river section list on back of this sheet.)

<u>Days Fished</u>	<u>River</u>	<u>Section</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. Did you catch one or more steelhead (including fish released)?

Yes _____ No _____

Figure 2. Preliminary letter sent to steelhead permit buyers in harvest survey sample, 1985.

4. If you caught and released steelhead, how many did you release, by river section?

Number Released		River Section
Hatchery	Wild	
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5. If you caught and kept steelhead, how many did you harvest by date and river section? (Check dates recorded on your steelhead permit.)

	Date	River	Section
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____

Sincerely,

Jerry M. Conley, Director

Snake River, below Salmon River.....01	Salmon River, South Fork to Middle Fork.....14
Snake River, above Salmon River.....02	Salmon River, Middle Fork to North Fork.....15
Clearwater River, below Orofino Bridge.....03	Salmon River, North Fork to Lemhi River.....16
Clearwater River, above Orofino Bridge.....04	Salmon River, Lemhi River to Pahsimeroi River.....17
North Fork Clearwater River.....05	Salmon River, Pahsimeroi River to East Fork.....18
Middle Fork Clearwater River.....06	Salmon River, above the East Fork.....19
South Fork Clearwater River.....07	Little Salmon River.....20
Selway River.....08	North Fork Salmon River.....23
Lochsa River.....09	Lemhi River.....24
Salmon River, below Whitebird Creek.....10	Pahsimeroi River.....25
Salmon River, Whitebird Creek to Little Salmon....11	East Fork Salmon River.....26
Salmon River, Little Salmon to Vinegar Creek.....12	Snake River, Oxbow.....27
Salmon River, Vinegar Creek to South Fork.....13	Boise River.....28

Figure 2. Continued.

IT IS UNLAWFUL

The following acts are unlawful by statute. They are listed here for your information. Please consult Title 36, Idaho Code, for exact wording and complete listing.

IT IS UNLAWFUL:

To refuse to produce license or fish for inspection upon request of a conservation officer.

To fail to stop and report at checking stations that have been established to inspect licenses and fish and game.

To fish for trout with the aid of artificial light.

To put any substance not attached to a hook into the water for the purpose of attracting fish (chumming).

To possess, transport or use as bait any live fish, EXCEPT as provided by Commission regulation.

To catch any part of another person's bag limit, EXCEPT in the case of license-exempt persons fishing for salmon and steelhead.

To transport for another or accept as a gift any game fish unless a statement signed by taker accompanies the fish, showing the number and kinds, the date taken, the taker's name, address and fishing license number.

To claim ownership to more wild game or fish taken within the State of Idaho than allowed by established possession limits.

To ship any fish by commercial carrier unless the outside of the package is marked as to the number and kinds of fish and the package contains a written statement showing the taker's name, address and fishing license number.

To use seines, dip nets, spears, snag hooks, or any other contrivances in taking any fish from the waters of the State EXCEPT as allowed by Commission regulation.

To deposit chemicals, poisons or explosives in attempting to catch or destroy fish.

To waste game fish.

To sell fish without a permit.

To destroy or disturb traps, or remove wildlife from traps.

Consult the General Fishing Regulations for other regulations relating to all fishing.

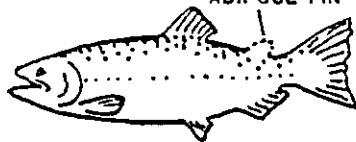


IS YOUR SALMON ADIPOSE-CLIPPED?

If it is . . .

SAVE THE HEAD!

MISSING
ADIPOSE FIN



HERE'S WHY: The missing adipose fin signals the presence of a small coded-wire tag implanted in the nose of the fish. Each tag provides valuable information. If your fish is missing its adipose fin, remove the fish's head and return it to a local conservation officer or Fish and Game office (or freeze it until you can turn it in).

1985 IDAHO CHINOOK SALMON SEASONS & REGULATIONS



Resident Fishing License..... \$10.50
Nonresident Fishing License..... \$30.50
Salmon Permit (Lic. Required)..... \$ 2.50



JERRY M. CONLEY, DIRECTOR
600 S. Walnut St. Phone 334-3700
P. O. Box 25 Boise, Idaho 83707

Figure 3. Idaho 1985 chinook salmon seasons and regulations.

GENERAL INFORMATION

LICENSES, PERMITS - GENERAL

Anyone, except those expressly exempt, must have a valid fishing license and salmon permit to fish for salmon.

Children (including nonresident children) under the age of 14 are exempt from purchasing salmon permits. They may fish without permits if they are accompanied by a valid permit holder, provided that any fish caught must be recorded on the permit holder's card and counted in the permit holder's legal bag and possession limit.

Any resident child under 14 may purchase a permit so that he may catch his or her own limit of salmon. Any person who does not qualify as a resident must have a nonresident season fishing license before purchasing a salmon permit.

In order to qualify for resident status, a person must be domiciled in the State for at least six months.

1985 IDAHO SALMON FISHING REGULATIONS

13.03.018.1 - 1985 SALMON FISHING REGULATIONS

- AUTHORIZATION -

In accordance with Sections 36-104(b), 36-410, 36-901, Idaho Code, it is ordered that the following regulations for the taking of chinook salmon in the State of Idaho are hereby declared to be effective May 25, 1985, and until further notice.

CHINOOK SALMON - Anadromous (ocean run) salmon of the species *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* taken from the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage and the Clearwater River drainage, excluding lakes and the North Fork of the Clearwater River above Dworshak Dam.

JACK SALMON - Chinook salmon under 20 inches in total length are commonly called jack salmon.

SALMON FISHING PERMITS - Anglers fishing for or taking chinook salmon must have a salmon permit in possession. However, when a salmon is released unharmed, as in catch-and-release fishing, the angler is not required to make an entry on the permit.

SALMON PERMIT VALIDATION - When a chinook salmon has been hooked, landed and reduced to possession, the angler must immediately:

- Completely remove one numbered notch from the permit; and
- Look up the number code from the location code list and write it in the space provided; and
- Enter the month and day the fish was caught.

For example, a chinook caught from the Little Salmon River on May 29 would be entered as:

FISH	Month/Day	Location Code
1	5/29	20

REMOVE NOTCH

SNAGGING - It is unlawful to kill or retain in possession any salmon which has been hooked other than in the head, and any salmon hooked other than in the head must be immediately released. Salmon caught in a legal manner must be either released or killed immediately after landing.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS - It shall be unlawful to fish in any waters while having fish in possession which violate regulations for those waters.

FISHING PROHIBITED AFTER ATTAINMENT OF LIMITS - It is unlawful to continue to fish for salmon after a person has caught and reduced to possession the daily bag, possession or season limit.

POSSESSION AND OWNERSHIP - All fish that are hooked, landed, and not immediately released shall be counted in the limits of the person hooking the fish.

SEASONS & LIMITS

The following waters are open to fishing for chinook salmon during the periods listed. Waters not specifically designated below shall remain CLOSED to fishing for chinook salmon.

LITTLE SALMON RIVER - From a posted line at its mouth upstream to a posted line located 100 yards upstream from the mouth of Rapid River - OPEN to fishing for chinook salmon from 4:00 a.m., Saturday, May 25, 1985 until further notice.

SNAKE RIVER - From Wild Sheep Rapids upstream to Hells Canyon Dam (approximately 6 miles) - OPEN to fishing for chinook salmon from Saturday, May 25, 1985 until further notice.

FISHING HOURS - Fishing for salmon on the Little Salmon River is permitted only during the hours of 4:00 a.m. through 9:30 p.m. during the open chinook salmon season.

SALMON LIMIT - 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 6 per season. Jack salmon must be counted in the daily, possession and season limit and recorded on the salmon permit.

NOTICE

Only 15,000 salmon permits have been printed. They will be available on a first-come, first-served basis only. They will be sold at license vendors in Riggins, Grangeville, McCall, New Meadows, Weiser, Midvale and Cambridge, and at Fish and Game Department Offices in Lewiston, Boise and Garden City.



Figure 3. Continued.

A total of 15,000 salmon permits were made available on a first-come, first-served basis at local vendors. Out of the 2,620 permits sold, 1,696 (64.7%) permit holders were contacted in the telephone survey. A total of 2,055 anglers participated in the chinook fishery in 1985 and fished 7,193 days (Table 1). They harvested a total of 2,328 chinook salmon (88.1% adult salmon and 10.9% jack salmon) (Table 2). The 1985 chinook salmon harvest estimate was the second lowest on record (Table 3).

Steelhead

Steelhead fishing seasons in 1985 were open on most waters from January 1 through April 30 and September 1 through December 31. Daily bag limits allowed from one to four fish/day, up to 10 fish in possession, and 10 to 20 fish/season (Figs. 4 and 5).

In 1985 anglers were either required (in some waters) or encouraged to release wild steelhead as determined by dorsal fin height.

A total of 34,615 steelhead permits were sold in 1985. Total estimated harvest of steelhead for the spring and fall seasons combined was 34,364, the highest on record (Tables 3 and 4). The 1985 harvest was made up of fish from the 1984-85 fish run in the spring fishing season, and of fish from the 1985-86 fish run in the fall. The fall fishery was by far the most important in terms of harvest, except on the Clearwater River drainage where harvest was greater in the spring (Table 5). The 1984-85 run provided the largest harvest of recent years (Table 6).

Among the major drainages, the Salmon River received the most fishing pressure during the year (Table 7). However, the greatest total harvest of steelhead in 1985 occurred in the Clearwater River drainage (Table 5).

In 1985 regulations for steelhead fishing encouraged or required the release of wild steelhead. Upper portions of the Salmon River required the release of steelhead having dorsal fins measuring 57 mm or greater in height. Lower portions of the Salmon River (below Deer Creek Bridge) and the entire Snake River required the release of steelhead having dorsal fins measuring 51 mm or greater in height. In addition, all steelhead caught, hatchery or wild, prior to October 13 on the Clearwater River, had to be released. Due to the dorsal fin regulation, the catch-and-release regulations on the Clearwater River, and voluntary catch-and-release fishing elsewhere, over 36,000 steelhead were released (Table 8) as compared to 34,364 harvested.

Table 1. Fishing effort in Idaho chinook salmon sport fishing season, 1985 (95% confidence limits in parentheses).

	Little Salmon River	Snake River	Total
Resident anglers			
Number	1,837	43	1,880
Days fished	6,627	107	6,734
Non-resident anglers			
Number	152	3	155
Days fished	409	5	414
Unclassified anglers			
Number	20	0	20
Days fished	45	0	45
All anglers			
Number	2,009	46	2,055
Days fished	7,081	112	7,193 (285)

Table 2. Estimated sport catch of chinook salmon in Idaho, 1985 (95% confidence limits in parentheses).

	Little Salmon River	Snake River	Total
Resident anglers			
Harvest	2,161	15	2176
Release	641	5	646
Subtotal	2,802	20	2,822
Non-resident anglers			
Harvest	141	0	141
Release	82	0	82
Subtotal	223	0	223
Unclassified anglers			
Harvest	11	0	11
Release	0	0	0
Subtotal	11	0	11
All anglers			
Harvest	2,313.(125)	15	2,328.(125)
Release	723.(334)	5	728.(334)
Total	3,036	20	3,056

Table 3. Idaho salmon and steelhead harvest estimates, 1954-1985^a.

Year	Chinook salmon harvest estimate	Steelhead trout harvest estimate
1954	15,000	12,000
1955	19,000	13,000
1956	21,000	8,000
1957	39,000	20,000
1958	24,000	30,000
1959	20,000	31,000
1960	21,000	30,000
1961	13,000	25,000
1962	12,000	19,000
1963	12,000	26,000
1964	8,000	18,000
1965	Season Closed	20,000
1966	8,500	20,000
1967	6,500	22,500
1968	10,000	23,000
1969	11,500	15,500
1970	5,500	20,500
1971	3,500	17,500
1972	6,500	13,500
1973	9,500	10,500
1974	1,500	3,000
1975	Season Closed	Season Closed
1976	Season Closed	2,000
1977	3,500	13,000
1978	7,000	11,500
1979	Season Closed	5,500
1980	Season Closed	9,000
1981	Season Closed	13,000
1982	Season Closed	20,500
1983	Season Closed	32,000
1984	Season Closed	25,000
1985	2,500	34,500

^aAll figures are reported for the calendar year and rounded to the nearest 500.



IDAHO 1985 SPRING

Steelhead Seasons and Regulations

— SEASONS AND LIMITS —

The following waters are open to fishing for steelhead during the periods listed. Waters not specifically designated below shall remain CLOSED to fishing for steelhead.

SALMON RIVER — From its mouth upstream to Mackay Bar pack bridge - January 1 through March 15. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** is 1 per day, 2 in possession, and 3 per season.

— From Mackay Bar pack bridge to 400 yards downstream from the mouth of the Pahsimeroi River - January 1 through March 31. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 1 per day, 2 in possession, and 3 per season.

— From 100 yards upstream from the mouth of the Pahsimeroi River upstream to Basin Creek - January 1 through April 15. Catch-and-Release only.

SPECIAL LIMIT AND GEAR REGULATIONS - From the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to Deer Creek Bridge near Whitebird, only steelhead with dorsal fins measuring 2 inches or less in height may be reduced to possession. From Deer Creek Bridge upstream only steelhead with dorsal fins measuring 2¼ inches or less in height may be reduced to possession. Steelhead with dorsal fins measuring in excess of these limits must always be immediately released unharmed. It shall be unlawful to fish for steelhead in the Salmon River with a barbed hook. Bending the barb down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook is sufficient to meet this gear restriction.

It shall be unlawful to possess any steelhead with a freshly cut or mutilated dorsal fin in this area.

Steelhead are the only game fish which may be retained in possession between Horse Creek and North Fork on the Salmon River during the steelhead season.

SNAKE RIVER - From Washington state line at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers upstream to Redbird Creek (approximately 16 miles upstream from Lewiston) - January 1 through April 30. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 4 per day, 10 in possession, and 20 per season.

— From Redbird Creek upstream to Wild Sheep Rapids (approximately 6 miles downstream from Hells Canyon Dam) January 1 through March 31. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 10 per season.

SPECIAL LIMIT AND GEAR RESTRICTIONS - Only steelhead with dorsal fins measuring 2 inches or less in height may be reduced to possession from the Snake River between Redbird Creek (16 miles upstream from Lewiston on the Idaho shore) and Wild Sheep Rapids (6 miles downstream from Hells Canyon Dam). It shall be unlawful to fish for steelhead with a barbed hook in waters where the 2 inch dorsal height restriction applies. Bending the barb down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook is sufficient to meet this gear restriction.

It shall be unlawful to possess any steelhead with a freshly cut or mutilated dorsal fin.

It shall be unlawful to fish for steelhead from a boat for 150 yards immediately downstream from Hells Canyon Dam.

— From Wild Sheep Rapids upstream to Hells Canyon Dam - January 1 through April 30. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 10 per season.

CLEARWATER RIVER - From the posted boundary at the confluence with the Snake River upstream to the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino - January 1 through April 30, EXCEPT that fishing from the shoreline along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is CLOSED FOR ALL SPECIES. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 4 per day, 10 in possession, and 20 per season.

— From the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino upstream to a posted line at the mouth of the South Fork Clearwater River - January 1 through April 15. Fishing from a raft or boat with motor attached is prohibited. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 1 per day, 1 in possession, and 3 per season.

CLEARWATER RIVER, NORTH FORK - From the mouth upstream to 100 yards below Dworshak Dam. January 1 through April 30 EXCEPT that fishing from the shoreline along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is CLOSED FOR ALL SPECIES and fishing from a boat is prohibited between the mouth and Ahsahka Highway Bridge. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 4 per day, 10 in possession, and 20 per season.

CLEARWATER RIVER, SOUTH FORK - From the mouth upstream to Mt. Idaho Bridge - January 1 through April 15. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 10 per season.

NOTE: Daily bag and possession limits for the Snake, Salmon, and Clearwater rivers shall not be construed as cumulative limits. An angler may take a total of 20 steelhead during the spring 1985 season, provided that the bag, possession, or season limits on any individual river section are not exceeded.

Figure 4. Idaho 1985 spring steelhead seasons and regulations. 12



IDAHO 1985 FALL

Steelhead Seasons and Regulations

— SEASONS AND LIMITS —

The following waters are open to harvest of steelhead during the periods listed. Waters not specifically designated below shall remain CLOSED to harvest of steelhead.

SALMON RIVER — From its mouth upstream to Basin Creek (approximately 8 miles downstream from Stanley) - September 1 through December 31. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** is 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 10 per season.

SPECIAL LIMIT AND GEAR RESTRICTIONS - From the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to Deer Creek Bridge near Whitebird, only steelhead with dorsal fins measuring 2 inches or less in height, or steelhead which have been marked by clipping the adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar may be reduced to possession. From Deer Creek Bridge upstream to Basin Creek, only steelhead with dorsal fins measuring 2¼ inches or less in height, or steelhead which have been marked by clipping the adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar may be reduced to possession. Steelhead that have not had the adipose fin clipped and with dorsal fins measuring in excess of these limits must always be immediately released unharmed. It shall be unlawful to fish for steelhead in the Salmon River with a barbed hook. Bending the barb down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook is sufficient to meet this gear restriction. It shall be unlawful to possess any steelhead with a freshly cut or mutilated dorsal fin or adipose fin in this area.

SNAKE RIVER - From Washington state line at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers upstream to Hells Canyon Dam September 1 through December 31. **STEELHEAD LIMIT:** 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 10 per season.

SPECIAL LIMIT AND GEAR RESTRICTIONS - Only steelhead with dorsal fins measuring 2 inches or less in height, or steelhead which have been marked by clipping the adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar may be reduced to possession from the Snake River from the Idaho-Washington state line upstream to Hells Canyon Dam. Steelhead that have not had the adipose fin clipped and with dorsal fins measuring in excess of 2 inches in height must be immediately released unharmed; **EXCEPT** that steelhead with dorsal fins in excess of 2 inches in height, or steelhead which have been marked by clipping the adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar may be retained in possession between the Washington-Idaho state line and Redbird Creek (16 miles upstream from Lewiston on the Idaho shore) from November 15 through December 31 and between Wild Sheep Rapids (6 miles downstream from Hells Canyon Dam) and Hells Canyon Dam during the entire season. It shall be unlawful to fish for steelhead in these waters with a barbed hook during the time period when the 2-inch dorsal fin height restriction applies. Bending the barb down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook is sufficient to meet this gear restriction.

It shall be unlawful to possess any steelhead with a freshly-cut or mutilated dorsal fin or adipose fin. It shall be unlawful to fish for steelhead from a boat for 150 yards immediately downstream from Hells Canyon Dam.

CLEARWATER RIVER - From the posted boundary at the confluence with the Snake River upstream to the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino - October 13 through December 31. **EXCEPT** that fishing from the shoreline along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is **CLOSED FOR ALL SPECIES**. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 10 per season.

From the Clearwater River Bridge at Orofino upstream to a posted line at the mouth of the South Fork Clearwater River - October 13 through December 31. Fishing from raft or boat with motor attached is prohibited. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 2 per day, 2 in possession, and 4 per season.

CLEARWATER RIVER, NORTH FORK - From the mouth upstream to 100 yards below Dworshak Dam. October 13 through December 31, **EXCEPT** that fishing from the shoreline along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is **CLOSED FOR ALL SPECIES** and fishing from a boat is prohibited between the mouth and Ahsahka Highway Bridge. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 2 per day, 4 in possession, and 10 per season.

CLEARWATER RIVER, SOUTH FORK - From the mouth upstream to Hungry Ridge Road Bridge near mile post 16 - October 13 through December 31. **STEELHEAD LIMIT** - 2 per day, 2 in possession, and 4 per season.

CATCH-AND-RELEASE FISHING FOR STEELHEAD - Except for the Middle Fork Salmon River and its tributaries - it is legal to fish for steelhead on a catch-and-release basis in any water open to fishing for other species provided that only artificial lures or flies with single barbless hooks are permitted when fishing for steelhead and all steelhead caught are immediately released unharmed. A valid steelhead permit is required when catch-and-release fishing for steelhead.

NOTE: Daily bag, possession and season limits for the Snake, Salmon, and Clearwater rivers shall not be construed as cumulative limits. An angler may take a total of 10 steelhead during the fall 1985 season, provided that the bag, possession, or season limits on any individual river section are not exceeded.

Table 4. Estimated number of days fished, and number of steelhead kept or released during Idaho's 1985 spring and fall steelhead season.

	Spring season	Fall season	Total
Number of days fished	61,972	176,324	238,296
Number of steelhead caught and released	9,180	26,873	36,053
Number of steelhead caught and kept	13,642	20,722	34,364

Table 5. Estimated harvest of steelhead by month from sections of Idaho streams, 1985.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Spring Total	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Fall Unknown	Fall Total	Year Total
Lower Clearwater	1,518	2,033	4,596	801	8,948	14	2,535	2,078	1,299	243	6,169	15,117
Upper Clearwater	67	80	277	71	495	0	0	67	433	27	527	1,022
North Fork Clearwater	138	116	828	828	1,910	14	147	33	21	0	215	2,125
Middle Fork Clearwater	--	--	8	17	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
South Fork Clearwater	--	17	210	57	284	0	0	0	0	29	29	313
Subtotal	1,723	2,246	5,919	1,774	11,662	28	2,682	2,178	1,753	299	6,940	18,602
Lower Snake	326	259	151	44	780	167	530	743	387	54	1,881	2,661
Upper Snake	57	31	97	8	193	0	297	267	151	40	755	948
Subtotal	383	290	248	52	973	167	827	1,010	538	94	2,636	3,609
Salmon River Sec. 1	178	84	26	8	296	119	721	311	96	43	1,290	1,586
2	44	62	62	22	190	114	233	187	64	86	684	874
3	17	4	35	--	56	205	843	454	71	29	1,602	1,658
4	4	8	30	--	42	0	450	576	329	0	1,355	1,397
5	13	110	125	8	256	265	2,701	1,945	220	126	5,257	5,513
6	13	17	125	--	155	0	154	201	0	29	384	539
7	--	4	4	4	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
8	--	--	--	--	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	269	289	407	42	1,007	703	5,102	3,674	780	313	10,572	11,579
Boise River	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	188	152	134	574	574
Statewide Total	2,375	2,825	6,574	1,868	13,642	898	8,711	7,050	3,223	840	20,722	34,364

Table 6. Estimated steelhead harvest by fish run year, 1976-85 (fish run year is calculated from August 1 to July 31).

Stream or section	Fish run year								
	76-77	77-78	78-79	79-80	80-81	81-82	82-83	83-84	84-85
Salmon-1	627	837	C.S.	340	663	1,281	1,583	1,457	1,358
Salmon-2	353	1,039	C.S.	257	512	879	962	910	730
Salmon-3	354	1,055	C.S.	342	1,339	1,715	1,004	877	470
Salmon-4	710	1,718	C.S.	548	1,348	1,781	1,656	1,863	888
Salmon-5	711	2,886	162	1,024	2,670	3,165	5,991	9,586	2,327
Salmon-6	91	130	136	124	679	600	1,591	2,822	407
Salmon-7	25	12	C.S.	8	25	41	156	621	48
Salmon-8	12	40	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	305	629	108
Salmon unknown	NA	NA	12	168	230	303	NA	NA	NA
Salmon total	2,883	7,717	310	2,811	7,466	9,765	13,248	18,765	6,336
S.F. Salmon	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.
M.F. Salmon	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.
Other Salmon tribs.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.
Lower Clearwater	C.S.	NA	1,921	--	3,523	354	9,218	6,165	18,024
Upper Clearwater	C.S.	NA	253	--	156	31	1,402	687	1,233
Clearwater unknown	NA	NA	125	--	217	12	0	0	NA
N.F. Clearwater	0	NA	484	--	256	144	1,201	414	2,216
M.F. Clearwater	0	0	C.S.	--	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	25
Other Clearwater tribs.	0	0	C.S.	--	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	C.S.	284 ^b
Clearwater total	0	14,157 ^a	2,783	C.S.	4,152	541	11,821	7,266	21,782
Lower Snake	96	NA	C.S.	17	358	484	1,535	1,024	3,319
Upper Snake	50	NA	C.S.	7	100	126	1,308	1,046	553
SNAKE total	146	NA	0	24	458	610	2,843	2,070	3,872
Unknown streams	66	50	3	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
STATE TOTALS	3,095	21,924	3,096	2,839	12,076	10,916	27,912	28,101	31,990

^aIncludes mainstem Clearwater and North Fork Clearwater.

C.S.denotes closed season.

NAdenotes data not available

^bSouth Fork Clearwater River.

Table 7. Estimated 1985 fishing pressure (angler days) for steelhead by river section, Idaho.

River section	Spring season	Fall season	Total
Lower Clearwater	31,707	35,788	67,495
Upper Clearwater	3,502	683	4,185
North Fork Clearwater	6,595	1,802	8,397
Middle Fork Clearwater	84	0	84
South Fork Clearwater	<u>2,145</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>2,595</u>
Clearwater subtotal	44,033	38,723	82,756
Lower Snake	3,753	16,324	20,077
Upper Snake	<u>1,401</u>	<u>5,773</u>	<u>7,174</u>
SNAKE subtotal	5,154	22,097	27,251
Salmon 1	1,611	13,445	15,056
Salmon 2	2,389	9,793	12,182
Salmon 3	643	15,734	16,377
Salmon 4	769	11,761	12,530
Salmon 5	3,605	48,177	51,782
Salmon 6	3,067	7,700	10,767
Salmon 7	523	1,448	1,971
Salmon 8	<u>178</u>	<u>670</u>	<u>848</u>
Salmon R. subtotal	12,785	108,728	121,513
Little Salmon River	0	308	308
North Fork Salmon River	0	195	195
Boise River	0	6,273	6,273
TOTAL	61,972	176,324	238,296

Table 8. Estimated number of steelhead trout caught and released by river section, 1985 spring and fall seasons, Idaho.

Stream section	Estimated number of steelhead trout caught and released		
	Spring	Fall	Total
Lower Clearwater	5,251	7,332	12,583
Upper Clearwater	465	200	665
North Fork Clearwater	339	709	1,048
Middle Fork Clearwater	13	200	213
South Fork Clearwater	<u>44</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>44</u>
Subtotal Clearwater	6,112	8,441	14,553
Lower Snake River	474	3,896	4,370
Upper Snake River	<u>237</u>	<u>906</u>	<u>1,143</u>
Subtotal Snake	711	4,802	5,513
Salmon Section 1	680	1,788	2,468
Salmon Section 2	349	794	1,143
Salmon Section 3	97	2,342	2,439
Salmon Section 4	151	1,826	1,977
Salmon Section 5	643	6,237	6,880
Salmon Section 6	420	320	740
Salmon Section 7	4	0	4
Salmon Section 8	<u>13</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>114</u>
Subtotal Salmon	2,357	13,408	15,765
Boise River	0	222	222
TOTAL	9,180	26,873	36,053


Submitted by:

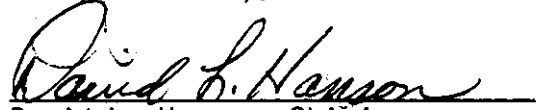
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